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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/742,302

12/18/2003

Pak-Lung Seto

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EXAMINER

WASEL, MOHAMED A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2154

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

08/27/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/742,302	<b>Applicant(s)</b> SETO, PAK-LUNG	
	<b>Examiner</b> Mohamed Wasel	<b>Art Unit</b> 2154	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-46 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-46 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5/27/05, 7/21/05 &amp; 10/14/05</u>                           | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

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### DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to application filed on December 18, 2003. Claims 1-46 are presented for examination.

#### Abstract

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

**The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title.** It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

#### Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 32-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The claims are directed to **software instructions on an article of manufacture**. Programs per se are not one of the statutory classes of invention. Programs must be tangibly embodied on a computer readable medium and be drawn to a practical application in order to be eligible for patent protection. Since the claim language does not clearly distinguish if the article of manufacture is directed to software/hardware, the claims are therefore rendered non-statutory. Correction is required to overcome the 101 rejections.

#### Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

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(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Coile et al, (hereinafter referred to as "Coile") US Patent No. 6,061,349.

1. As per claim 1, Coile teaches a method, comprising:

maintaining an initial configuration assigning multiple local interfaces to one initial local address (col. 4 lines 45-67, Abstract);

for each local interface, receiving a remote address of a remote interface on at least one remote device to which the local interface connects (col. 2 line 44 – col. 3 line 4); and

using the initial local address to identify the local interfaces assigned to the initial local address in response to receiving a same remote address for each remote interface connected to the local interfaces assigned the initial local address (col. 4 lines 26-44).

2. As per claim 2, Coile teaches the method of claim 1, further comprising:

generating at least one identifier in response to receiving multiple remote addresses from the remote interfaces connected to the local interfaces (col. 4 lines 45-67); and

assigning different identifiers to the local interfaces previously assigned the initial local address in response to generating the at least one identifier (col. 14 lines 56-67).

3. As per claim 3, Coile teaches the method of claim 2, wherein the initial local address comprises a port address of a port to which the local interfaces are assigned as part of the initial configuration (col. 12 lines 12-33, Fig. 6D).

4. As per claim 4, Coile teaches the method of claim 3, wherein each generated identifier comprises an additional port address, further comprising:

configuring an additional port in the device for each generated additional port address and assigning local interfaces to the ports, including the additional port and port having the initial local address (col. 10 line 50 – col. 11 line 14).

5. As per claim 5, Coile teaches the method of claim 4, wherein the local interfaces assigned to one port connect to remote interfaces having a same remote address (col. 2 lines 44-65).

6. As per claim 6, Coile teaches the method of claim 2, wherein the at least one received remote address is received as part of an identification sequence, further comprising:

transmitting the initial local address to the remote interfaces connected to the local interfaces (col. 2 lines 44-65).

7. As per claim 7, Coile teaches the method of claim 6, wherein the identifiers assigned to the local interfaces, including the at least one generated identifier, comprise local addresses, further comprising:

initiating an additional identification sequence in response to generating the at least one local address (col. 10 line 50 – col. 11 line 14); and

transmitting the local addresses identifying the local interfaces to the connected remote interfaces in response to the additional identification sequence (col. 5 lines 50-65).

8. As per claim 8, Coile teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the at least one remote device and a local device including the local interfaces implement the SAS architecture, wherein the local and remote addresses comprise SAS addresses, and wherein the local and remote interfaces comprise PHYs (col. 7 line 54 – col. 8 line 20).

9. As per claim 9, Coile teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the remote interfaces having different remote addresses are on different remote devices' (col. 8 lines 33-44, Abstract).

10. As per claim 10, Coile teaches the method of claim 2, wherein generating the at least one identifier comprises generating a different identifier for each received different remote address, wherein a combination of the identifiers and the initial local address are used to identify the local interfaces assigned (col. 10 lines 28-49).

11. As per claim 11, Coile teaches the method of claim 10, wherein the plurality of identifiers comprise domains and wherein the initial local address comprises a port address of a port to which the local interfaces are assigned as part of the initial configuration, wherein the local interfaces remain assigned to the port having the initial local address (col. 4 lines 26-45).

12. As per claim 12, Coile teaches the method of claim 10, wherein the remote interfaces having different remote addresses are on different remote devices, wherein the combination of each of the plurality of identifiers and the default local address identify the local interfaces within a local device and

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wherein the initial local address identifies the local interfaces within the remote devices (col. 4 lines 44-67).

13. As per claim 13, Coile teaches the method of claim 10, wherein the plurality of identifiers comprise domains, further comprising:

for each received remote address, generating a different domain in a local device including the local interfaces connected to the remote interfaces having the remote addresses (col. 4 lines 44-67).

14. As per claim 14, Coile teaches the method of claim 13, wherein the generated domains include one domain in the initial configuration (col. 4 lines 26-45).

15. Claim 15 is rejected under the same rationale as claim 1.

16. The set of claims 16-28 are rejected under the same rationale as the set of claims 2-14.

17. Claim 29 is rejected under the same rationale as claim 1.

18. Claim 30 is rejected under the same rationale as claim 2.

19. Claim 31 is rejected under the same rationale as claim 3.

20. Claim 32 is rejected under the same rationale as claim 1.

21. Claim 33 is rejected under the same rationale as claim 2.

22. Claim 34 is rejected under the same rationale as claim 3.

23. The set of claims 35-45 are rejected under the same rationale as the set of claims 4-14.

24. As per claim 46, Coile teaches the article of manufacture of claim 32, wherein the article of manufacture stores instructions that when executed result in performance of the operations (col. 7 lines 43-53).

### Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Please refer to form PTO-892 (Notice of Reference Cited) for a list of relevant prior art.

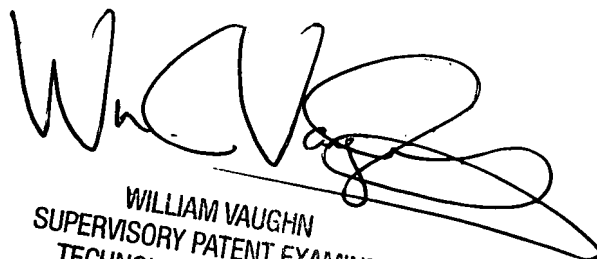
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mohamed Wasel whose telephone number is (571) 272-2669. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (8:00 am - 5:30 pm).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan Flynn can be reached on (571) 272-1915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MW  
August 3, 2007



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